



## WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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- ***Commission Member Lead for Programs/WACD Committees***

At the January 19, 2006 WSCC Meeting, Chair Brown suggested that it would be appropriate for the Commission members to take an active role in supporting the programs and possibly assign a member that had primary responsibility for a program to be available for the committees and taskforces.

Chair Brown asked that the Commission members consider the suggestion and at the March Commission Meeting make assignments.

Chair Brown also asked the Commissioners to think about becoming a specialized lead member for each of the programs. This will be discussed at the March Commission Meeting.

## **WACD Charges to Issue Committees**

### **Charge to CREP Committee**

*Identify and prioritize issues related to implementation of the CREP program. Help collect and verify implementation and technical assistance data to give an accurate view of implementation. Create recommendations for implementation and technical assistance to be used to administer the CREP program statewide.*

*Continually evaluate the CREP program and its effectiveness. Recommend suggestions to improve the implementation of the current CREP program. Guide the creation of documentation accurately outlining the successful implementation of the CREP program. After thorough evaluation of the current CREP program, create a recommendation, if appropriate, for recommended CREP II proposal. Create a state decision package and a federal decision package of the CREP II proposal. Create and participate in legislative strategy to support any CREP II recommended proposal.*

*Continue a successful working relationship with WCC Staff in support of the CREP program.*

### **Charge to District Operations Committee**

*Accumulate issues of strategic legislative or legal importance to district operations. Prioritize these issues and create strategies for solutions. Concentrate your efforts on issues related to district operations and assign WACD operations to the WACD officers. District operations should be primarily responsible for issues such as relationship to conservation commission, basic funding, elections of supervisors, corrections and modifications of RCW 89.08, legal and personnel management issues and other issues relating to basic district operations.*

### **Charge to Farm Bill Policy Committee**

*Identify and prioritize issues relating to federal farm program bills, WACD and CD's relationships with NRCS, implementation of 2002 farm bill programs such as EQIP, WRP, GRP, CSP and other farmland programs.*

*Create a forum for communication interaction from local CD issues to NRCS leadership and also from NRCS leadership communication back to WACD and local CD's.*

*Create solution strategies for issues and when necessary decision packages for proposed programs. Support and implement these strategies to agencies and legislative sources with cooperation from other interested parties.*

### **Charge to Forestry Committee**

*Identify all local, state and federal programs and funding sources related to private forest lands and their stewardship. Identify which forest lands and conservation districts within the state of Washington would qualify, participate in or be interested in these programs. Prepare a strategy to coordinate private forest lands and conservation districts involvement.*

*Identify issues and conflicts that exist on private forest land and create strategies for solution. Participate actively in coordination with NACD forestry committee. Create working relations with local, state and federal forestry agencies and private organizations.*

## **WACD Charges to Issue Committees**

### **Charge to Irrigation Committee**

*Identify and prioritize irrigation issues which conservation districts can provide meaningful program support. Document each issue and provide a decision package and an accompanying strategy to the WACD 2005 annual meeting.*

*Issues such as water conservation, water quality issues, irrigation efficiencies program, equipment upgrades and water quantity monitoring are examples of potential issue sources.*

### **Charge to Legislative Committee**

*Consist of one representative from each of the 6 WACD Areas in Washington State. Committee members will help WACD identify politically influential supervisors, employees and sympathetic individuals within each of the 6 WACD Areas. Information on these contacts will be continually updated and be used as a legislative tool.*

*Committee members will identify legislative opportunities such as local tours, networking with legislators, opportunities for trips to Olympia and other opportunities. Committee will communicate and motivate supervisors and employees to maximize these legislative opportunities.*

*Legislative strategies for individual committee issues will be organized, outlined and carried out by each committee. The Legislative Committee will only identify the opportunities and communication links. Coordination of this information will be with the WACD Executive Director and the WACD lobbyist.*

### **Charge to Livestock Committee**

*Accumulate and prioritize issues within conservation districts related to livestock. Develop budget decision packages or policies that will successfully address the prioritized livestock issues. Develop and maintain strong two-way communication and relationships with interested commodity groups, legislators and others interested in these livestock issues. Prepare, coordinate and implement successful strategies with legislators, agencies and other groups to adopt the proposed strategies. Issues such as: confidentiality of farm plans, livestock riparian water rights, assisting AFO/CAFO operations with technical assistance and implementation, livestock water quality monitoring, non-commercial livestock operations, and technical assistance to NPDES operations.*

### **Charge to Urban, Community, and Coastal Resources Committee**

*Identify and prioritize issues relative to urban rural interface, urban forestry interface, coastal resource issues, farmland protection, GMA resource lands and CAO, and urban water quality issues. Issues priorities and the subsequent decision packages should be the result of interaction between this committee and the districts. Districts desires and potential for each issue should be evaluated and quantified.*

*Interaction with the NACD Urban, Community, and Coastal Resources Committee should provide direction, funding sources, and other valuable information. Suggested issues of interest such as farmland protection, GMA Ag land interface, shellfish bed protection, urban forestry, small farm planning, NRCS urban FOTG issues and many others.*

### **Charge to WACD Alternative Energy Taskforce**

Prepare a strategy relative to the alternative energy source, bio-diesel. Identify stakeholders, issues and opportunities currently involved with bio-diesel and conservation districts. Create and present a written strategy to WACD at the 2005 annual meeting. Possible opportunities and strategy previews should be presented and reviewed through WACD officers prior to the 2005 annual meeting.

Other suggested alternative energy source strategies and issues should be identified and prioritized, such as methane digesters, bio-fuels, ethanol, carbon credits, wind, hydroelectric and conservation sources of energy.

### **Charge to Puget Sound Task Force**

Identify and characterize all natural resource funding sources and interested agencies within the Puget Sound 12 conservation district area. Characterize the funding sources and interested agencies and other entities that have significant influence on the Puget Sound issues. Create a strategy to assist the 12 Puget Sound districts with policy and program coordination. Present a prioritized strategy to the officers and directors at the 2005 annual convention.